

Response

The specification, drawings, and claims were amended in accordance with the amendments above. The amendments to the claims are being made to clarify the invention and to focus the claims on those aspects of the invention which are a commercial priority to the assignee. All of the amendments are fully supported by the specification, claims, and figures as originally filed. No new matter is believed or intended to be involved.

Applicant appreciates the courtesies extended during the telephonic interview with the Examiner on 02/28/2005. The claims were amended as discussed in the interview. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication during the interview that the present amendments would overcome the rejections in the pending Office Action. The Applicant acknowledges that the Examiner reserved the right to supplement his search.

In the specification, the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 14 and ending at page 12, line 2, was amended to correct two inadvertent typographical errors. In particular, with respect to page 11, line 15, the word "director" was replaced with the word "detector." In addition, with respect to page 12, line 1, the word "that" was replaced with the word "than." These inadvertent typographical errors in the specification have been corrected by the amendment above.

All of the drawings (Figs. 1A through 8) have been converted from informal hand drawings to formal drawings in accordance with the replacement sheets attached hereto. In addition, Figures 2, 3, and 7 have been amended to correct inadvertent errors in the original drawings. In particular, Figure 2 was amended to include item number 230, which was inadvertently omitted in the original drawing. This item number was added to indicate the computer system referred to and discussed in the corresponding portion of the specification (page 8, line 1 through page 10, line 15). Figure 3 was amended to replace the word "definion" in box 328 with the word "definition," thereby correcting an inadvertent typographical error. Figure 7 has been amended to clarify the relative positioning of boxes 755, 760, 765, and 770 in the

depicted flow chart. Amended Figure 7 now more clearly reflects the steps described in the corresponding portion of the specification (page 24, line 14 through page 26, line 2).

The Office Action included an objection to the drawings for being informal. In light of the foregoing amendments to the drawings, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection be withdrawn.

To the extent that the amendments constitute a narrowing of the claims, such narrowing of the claims should not be construed as an admission as to the merits of the prior rejections. Indeed, Applicants traverse the rejections and preserve all rights and arguments.

Based on the foregoing, all pending claims are in a condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and an early notice of allowance.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Attachments (9 Replacement Sheets of Drawings)

Amendments to the Drawings

The attached drawing sheets, which include Figs. 1A through 8, replace all original sheets, which likewise included Figs. 1A through 8. Figs. 1A, 1B, 4 through 6, and 8 have undergone no changes except for the conversion of the original, informal hand drawings to formal drawings. Figs. 2, 3, and 7 have also undergone conversion from the original, informal hand drawings to formal drawings. In addition, Figs. 2, 3, and 7 have been amended as follows:

Figure 2 has been amended to include previously omitted item number 230.

Figure 3 has been amended to correct an inadvertent typographical error by replacing the word “definion” with the word “definition” in box 328.

Figure 7 has been amended to clarify the relative positioning of boxes 755, 760, 765, and 770 in the depicted flow chart as discussed in the corresponding section of the specification.

Attachment: Replacement sheets